

## CONVICTION DOUBTFUL.

A Report on the Mob That Burned Seminole.

Washington, Feb. 2.—In response to a Senate resolution, the Attorney General sent to Congress today a statement showing the difficulties of punishing the mob which burned the two Seminole Indians. The Attorney General incloses a letter written by the United States Attorney of Oklahoma, which reviews the matter at length. The District Attorney states that he has secured the names of 15 of the mob and expects to get many more. He says that the people are in sympathy with the mob; hence it is difficult to apprehend the offenders. His report says:

"The conspirators are banded together for the purpose of resisting arrest, and this makes it difficult for the officers to work successfully. Under the law these conspirators will have to be taken before the United States Commissioner in Pottawatomie county for a preliminary hearing, and a grand jury of that county will have to inquire into the case and their case will have to be tried there, all of which is favorable to the defendants. I have concluded to get warrants for all the men we have, but to make the arrests the marshal must have authority to use all the men and money necessary. He cannot expect any assistance from any citizen in the country, but must take them there with him. I think if the prisoners knew we could hold them here on a limited preliminary charge they might surrender and waive a preliminary hearing, but they fear we will hold them for the Indian Territory authorities. Now, if we have not the authority to punish them for murder in Oklahoma, under the United States statutes, why cannot they be punished for conspiracy and murder in the Indian Territory, where the United States has exclusive jurisdiction? It is true that the act of killing and burning occurred in Oklahoma, yet a conspiracy and a part of the act to carry out and consummate the conspiracy occurred in the Indian Territory, under the exclusive jurisdiction of the United States. The law of the United States requiring the defendant to be tried in the country where the offense was committed will protect these offenders from punishment under the United States laws in Pottawatomie county. However, we will have proof enough in a few days to justify us to proceed to arrest a number and have them before the United States Commissioner at Tecumseh for preliminary hearing. If we cannot punish the mob under the United States law, I have no hope of the Territorial authorities ever reaching them."

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### Wagoner's Objections.

While the appellate court of the Indian Territory is in session a few weeks ago at South McAlester we noticed from a publication in the Capital that the four judges were preparing a bill to be presented to Congress dividing the three judicial districts into four, and establishing boundary lines of the same. The Capital gave a brief sketch of the territory embraced in each district as would be provided by the bill when completed, but the boundary lines of the first and second districts were not given in any way as to be very well understood at the time. We could not tell from the descriptions according to the Capital whether the bill would provide that Wagoner be placed in the first or second district. If Wagoner was to be placed in the first and the lines properly established between the first and second, the measure we thought worthy of favorable consideration as to the geographical location of Wagoner and Vinita, where the two principal courts would be established, makes the two points convenient for the people of the entire district. The two towns have excellent railroad facilities, and a division of the districts in this way would be beneficial to the public at large so far as the first district is concerned.

Wagoner is a central point with better railroad facilities than any other territorial town, and we are willing for any division to be made that will benefit all the people, or a majority of the people in this change. Would the welfare of the people be served by placing Wagoner at the extreme northeast corner of what would be the second district under the provisions of the bill? The most progressive town, with the best court building in the territory, that is easily reached by rail from all portions of the country, cut off by out of the way points, that is very burdensome and expensive on the people to reach.

We learn from Captain William Jackson, who has just returned from Vinita, and who was in conference with Judge Thomas while there, that the bill as prepared by the venerable judges, bounds the second district as follows: Commencing at the Arkansas river where the river enters the Arkansas line, thence northwest to the mouth of Grand river to a point due east of the northeast corner of the Creek nation, thence along the north line of the Creek nation to the northwest corner, thence south and west including the Creek and Seminole nations and all that portion of the Cherokee nation lying west of Grand river, and the Canadian district. Thus it will be seen where such an arrange-

ment as this would place Wagoner, and if the distinguished jurists think we will submit to any such outrage in this bailiwick they are very much mistaken. Judges Springer and Thomas of course are responsible for this proposed change, as the other judges were not familiar with the territory covered, and as a matter of fact were less interested in the change made in this portion of the territory. We do not pretend to say that Judges Springer and Thomas, both of whom are much admired by the people of Wagoner, have intentionally made this awful mistake, and we believe they will take pleasure in making the necessary amendments to the measure after they see that it not only does an injustice to Wagoner, but that it is an injustice to all of the people that it is intended to benefit. Captain Jackson was working faithfully with a petition yesterday, and he secured many signatures. If the bill is not changed it will be fought with vigor until the last hour in the morning.—Sayings.

### Bucklen's Arnica Salve.

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Why should Marshal Bennett oppose the redistricting of the northern district? Litigation here, now, is too expensive, for the reason that the courts are too far away from the litigants, and the dockets too crowded to give any one a speedy trial. It is a very common thing for a party litigant and his witnesses to attend court at a great distance from their home and at much cost, only to learn that his case has been continued till next term, because of the crowded condition of the docket his case cannot be reached, and then there would be more courts, and then there would be no such long and expensive trips from home, and no longer the vexatious delays in trial of cases which often amounts to denials of justice. The redistricting of the northern district would give us more courts, would give us more commissioners. The people of this district are entitled to this, and they know it, and will remember Mr. Bennett or any other man who stands out against a measure so conducive to the public good. The docket for the southern district being so overcrowded, Judge John R. Thomas will be sent there to assist Judge Townsend, and Judge Springer will, no doubt, hold court at Miami at the April term, as we understand that Judge Thomas begins the Purcell term of court March 25th.—Fairland Bee.

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Editors are the first to hear of scandal or gossip, indiscretions of men and women, things unfit for publication, intrigues, clandestine meetings, night buggy rides, young girls gone astray, flirtations of married women, amours of married men—and in fact all neighborhood scandals. Editors generally know all the naughty doings in a community, no matter how secret. If half they hear was published, divorce suits would follow in some cases, social ostracism in others, shotguns and gore, imprisonment, lynching, shame, desolate homes, humiliation and misery. The editor learns much of the shame and hypocrisy of life, and it is a wonder that he believes in anything on earth or in the hereafter. People who abuse the editor the least sometimes owe their standing in society to his forbearance.—Ex.

**Benedictines in England.** The Benedictines, whom Cardinal Vaughan is reestablishing at Westminster and Ealing, were in pre-reformation times the most numerous and most widely distributed religious order in England. They had no less than 108 abbeys, priories and nunneries. The London establishments were at Westminster, Clerkenwell and St. Helen's Bishopsgate. The head of their community at Westminster abbey had a seat in the house of lords. Abbott Feckenham, the last holder of the office, delivered a remarkable speech in the upper house against the religious changes introduced in the reign of Elizabeth. At present the Benedictines have a dozen houses in England, the three principal establishments being at Downside, Ampleforth and Hamstead, Chicago Irish Ocean.

### A Warning.

He (starting)—Is that your father coming downstairs? She (looking at the clock)—Oh, no; he won't make any noise when he comes down.—Whim Whams.

**Knew the Combination.** Client—Can you draw a will that can't be broken? Honest Lawyer—I cannot; but I can draw one that no one but myself can break.—Puck.

**Just What He Wanted.** Tramp—Can I get work in this town? Farmer—Yes, lots of it. "What'll I try the next town?"—N. Y. Journal.

## AT A JAPANESE SUPPER.

Nicely Served, But Occidentals Found It Difficult to Eat.

Perhaps at this season of universal merry-making an account of a Japanese feast will not be amiss. Last December a jolly party of eight Americans went to the Maple club, the Delmonico's of Tokyo. The chapter of the party, knowing well the peculiarities of Japanese cooking, suggested that it would be well to dine beforehand at home, as there could be absolutely nothing we could eat. Our jirafishas were ordered for eight o'clock. Prompt to the minute the faithful coolies were at the door. A lighted paper lantern hung from the shaft of each vehicle, and every "riksha" man is compelled by law to carry one. With a shout the men were off, calling and laughing as they raced along the dark country roads. Some times the last were first in the merry chase. Heavy people have usually been found to pull tandem and one to push the "rikshas." At the door of the clubhouse we were greeted by the smiling little waitress in gay-colored kimono, silk robes, who took our wraps and shoes.

Our stockings feet we climbed the polished stairs, and passing rooms divided by sliding screens, where other dinner parties were going on, came to the room reserved for us. Dainty mats covered the floor, and here, let me say, referring to the size of a room, where we would describe its dimensions, the Japanese would term it a six-mat room. As "table," or cloth stockings, are the only footwear in contact with the mat, it remains clean and unbroken. Silk cushions were arranged in a semi-circle on the floor two or three inches thick, and perhaps 20 square. We were not adepts in the native custom of sitting on one's feet. Two of the men squatted Turk fashion, and we ladies changed our position in rather a restless manner from time to time.

Immediately on our arrival supper was served on lacquer tables. We had first soup to be eaten with chop sticks. It was a problem how to handle these instruments, but we succeeded in spearing mushrooms at the bottom of the bowl. Next came raw fish, a strange sauce, and then boiled rice, looking so nicely as it cooked like a pile of snowflakes. Between each course, "saké," the native drink, was passed around. It is distilled from barley and rice, and is said to contain a small percentage of alcohol. We were offered persimmons, which the little waitress pared with their left fingers, and a pretty box of sweets was given us to take home, containing jelly, cake and candies in the shape of maple leaves to match the season.

Next came a course of small delicacies, and in front of us ready to render any service, their English was very limited. They told us their names, which seemed to us very fanciful—"Snow," "Cherry Blossom" and "Chrysanthemum." They smiled and blushed at the compliments. The waiter, whose name was given as "Chrysanthemum," explained the symbolic meaning of the dances as they followed in slow succession. We saw eyes peeping at us from openings in the screens, their owners being anxious to see how the Europeans were amusing themselves. The dances were beautiful figures, looking as if they had stepped off screens or fans. The musicians sat behind them. The samisen, not unlike a banjo in shape, is the most agreeable of their musical (?) instruments. The others give forth with the joyful sound. Our guides explained the symbolic meaning of the dances as they followed in slow succession. 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